

Article - Education

[\[Previous\]](#)[\[Next\]](#)

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The Office, in consultation with the Department, shall adopt regulations to establish:

- (1) The maximum starting income for eligibility in the Program;
- (2) The maximum total income for eligibility in the Program, including any additional sources of income;
- (3) That priority for participation in the Program shall be given to a farmer who:
 - (i) Graduated from an institution of higher education in the State in the last 10 years;
 - (ii) Is employed as a farmer on a full-time basis; and
 - (iii) As determined by the Department in consultation with the Department of the Environment, uses sustainable agricultural techniques and demonstrates environmental stewardship;
- (4) A limit on the total amount of assistance provided by the Office in repaying the higher education loan of a farmer, based on the farmer's total income and outstanding higher education loan balance;
- (5) A procedure and schedule for the payment of the amount of loan assistance provided by the Office to the farmer; and
- (6) An annual review of the eligibility of each farmer participating in the Program.

[\[Previous\]](#)[\[Next\]](#)